

# The Goals of Psychology



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# What is Psychology?



- ❧ Scientific Study of behavior and mental processes
- ❧ Involve both animal and human
- ❧ Use a systematic method of asking and answering questions
- ❧ Key point is observation
- ❧ Four part process

# The Goals of Psychology: Describe



- ❧ The gathering information stage
- ❧ Key point of all scientists
  - ❧ Observation is key in trying to understand the unexplainable



# The Goals of Psychology: Explanation



- ❧ Second part of the process
- ❧ Based upon what was described can help to build...
- ❧ **Hypothesis**
  - ❧ An assumption or prediction about behavior that is tested through scientific research
- ❧ **Theory**
  - ❧ Set of assumptions used to explain phenomena and offered for scientific study

# The Goals of Psychology: Prediction



- ❧ Third part of the process
- ❧ Using what they have gathered to predict what an organism will and will not do

# The Goals of Psychology: Influence



- ❧ The fourth part of the process
- ❧ **Basic Science**
  - ❧ Pursuit of knowledge about natural phenomena for its own sake
- ❧ **Applied Science**
  - ❧ Discovering ways to use scientific findings to accomplish practical goals

# M&M's and The Scientific Method



# What do we want to Know?

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- ❧ What do we want to know about  
the bag of M&M's



# How can we find out?



- ❧ In groups, figure out the hypothesis in the best way you can.
- ❧ One person in the group needs to be the designated data collector

# Data

Group #	Total Number of M&M's in the Bag	Total Number of Green M&M's in the Bag	Total Number of Brown M&M's in the Bag	Total Number of Blue M&M's in the Bag	Total Number of Yellow M&M's in the Bag	Total Number of Red M&M's in the Bag

# Analysis



- ❧ How can we find the best way to figure out what we will get from a random bag of M&M's

# Concept Maps





# What is it?



- ❧ A way to connect terms and ideas throughout the unit and/or chapter

# Making a Concept Map



- ❧ Open to pg. 9 in the textbook.
- ❧ Find the term Psychology

